

# DARWIN

Towards the Ultimate Dark Matter Detector

Patrick Decowski



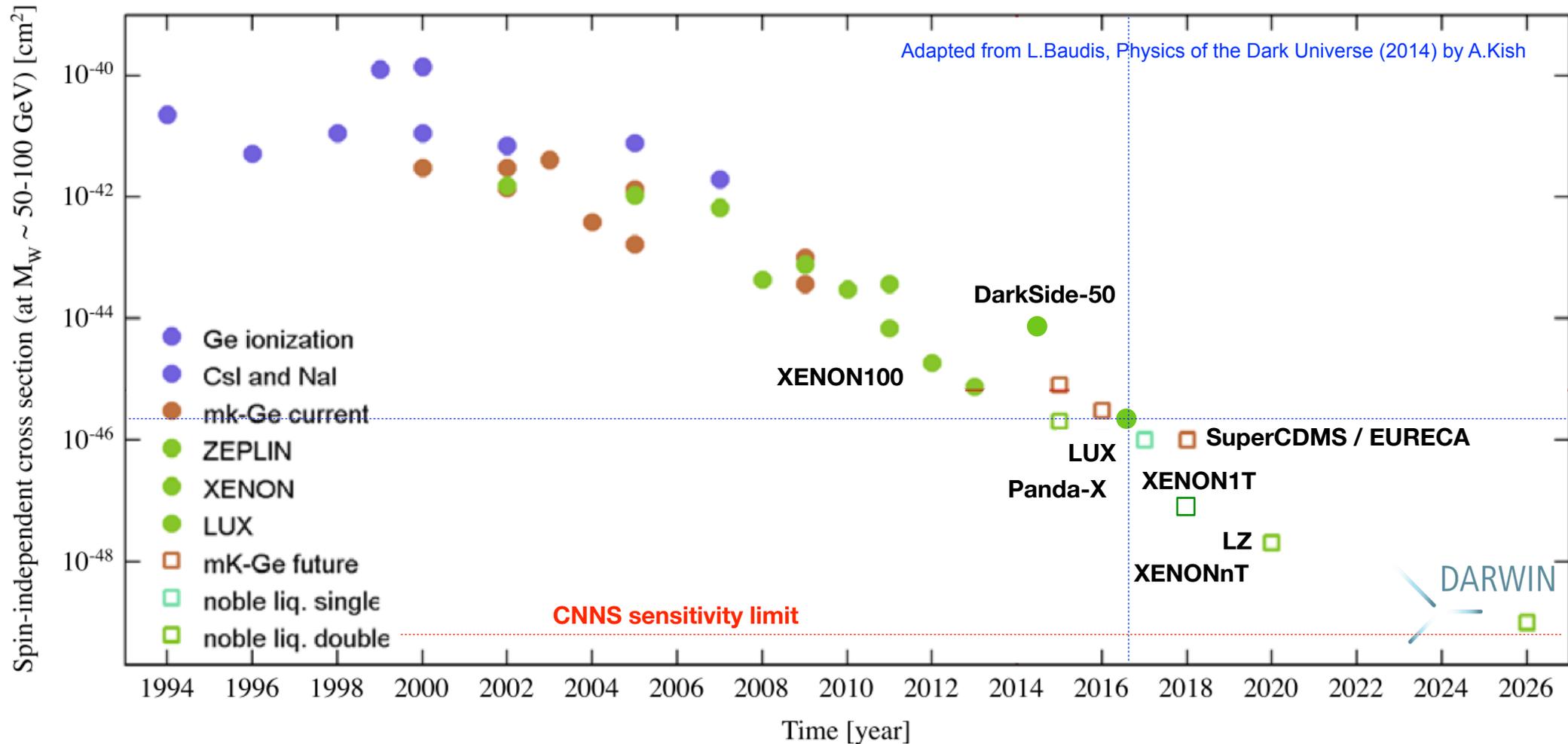
UNIVERSITEIT VAN AMSTERDAM

GRAPPA 

GRavitation AstroParticle Physics Amsterdam



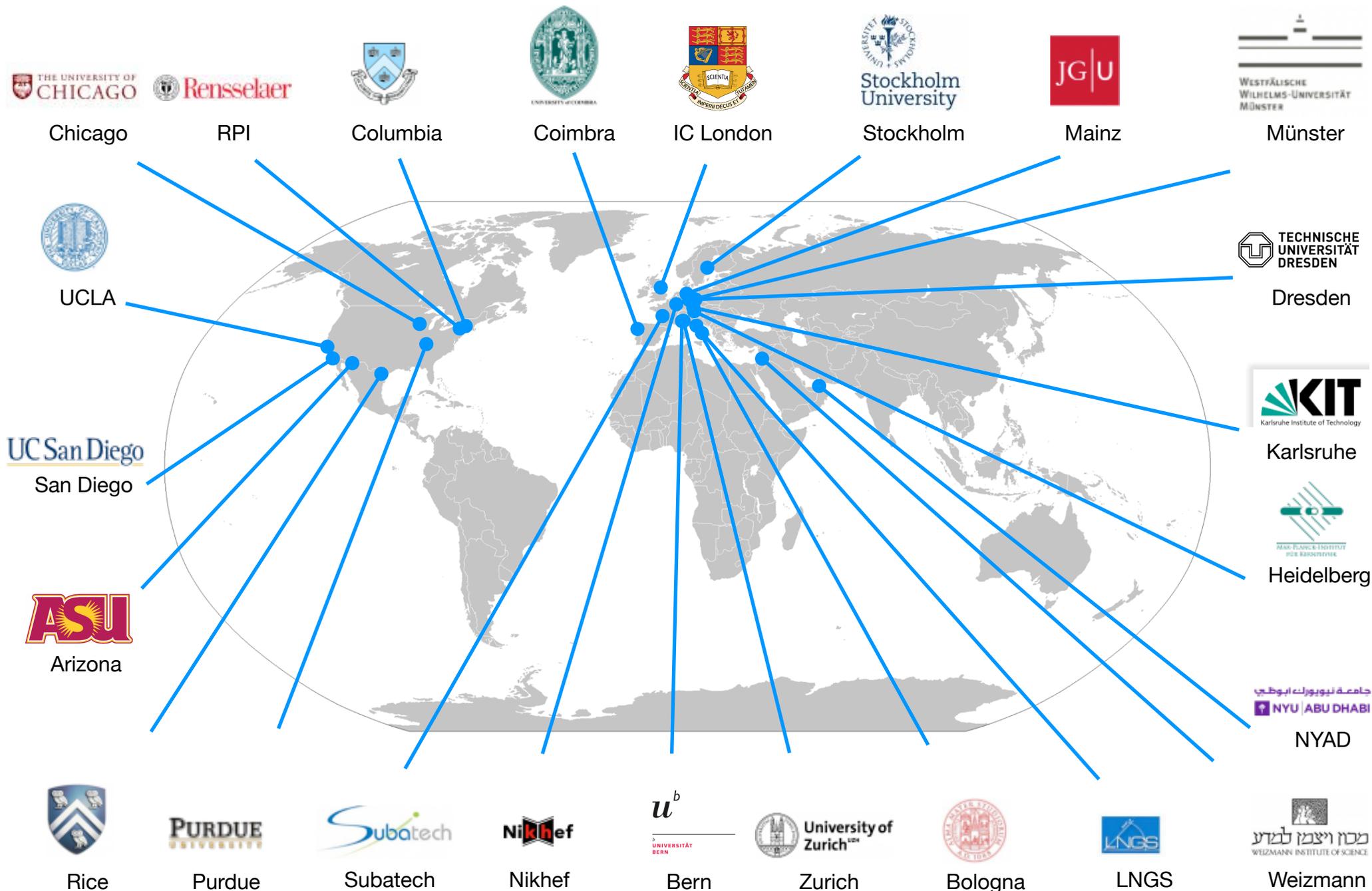
# Direct Dark Matter Detection



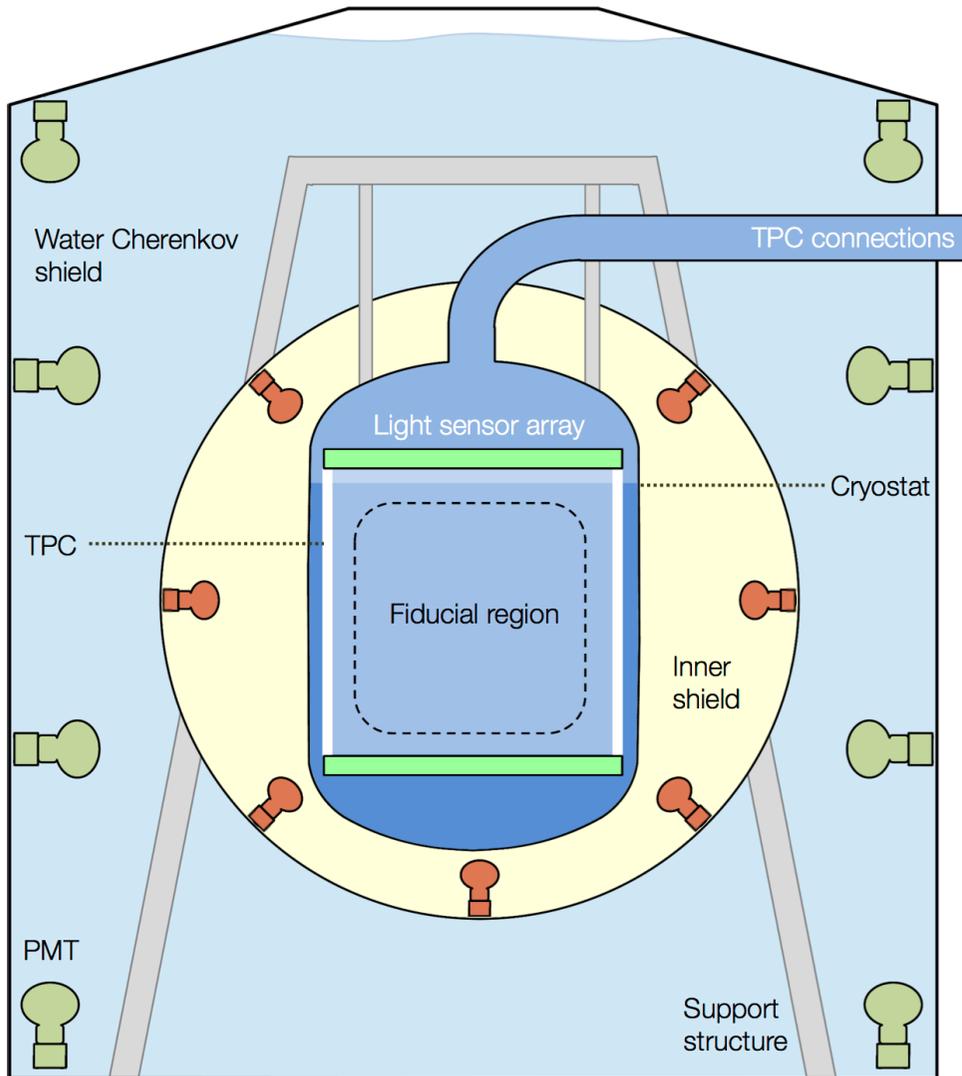
- Requirements to reach these goals:
  - Large target mass / easily scalable
  - Low threshold
  - Low radioactive background

# The DARWIN Consortium

- 25 groups from 11 countries - formed in 2009



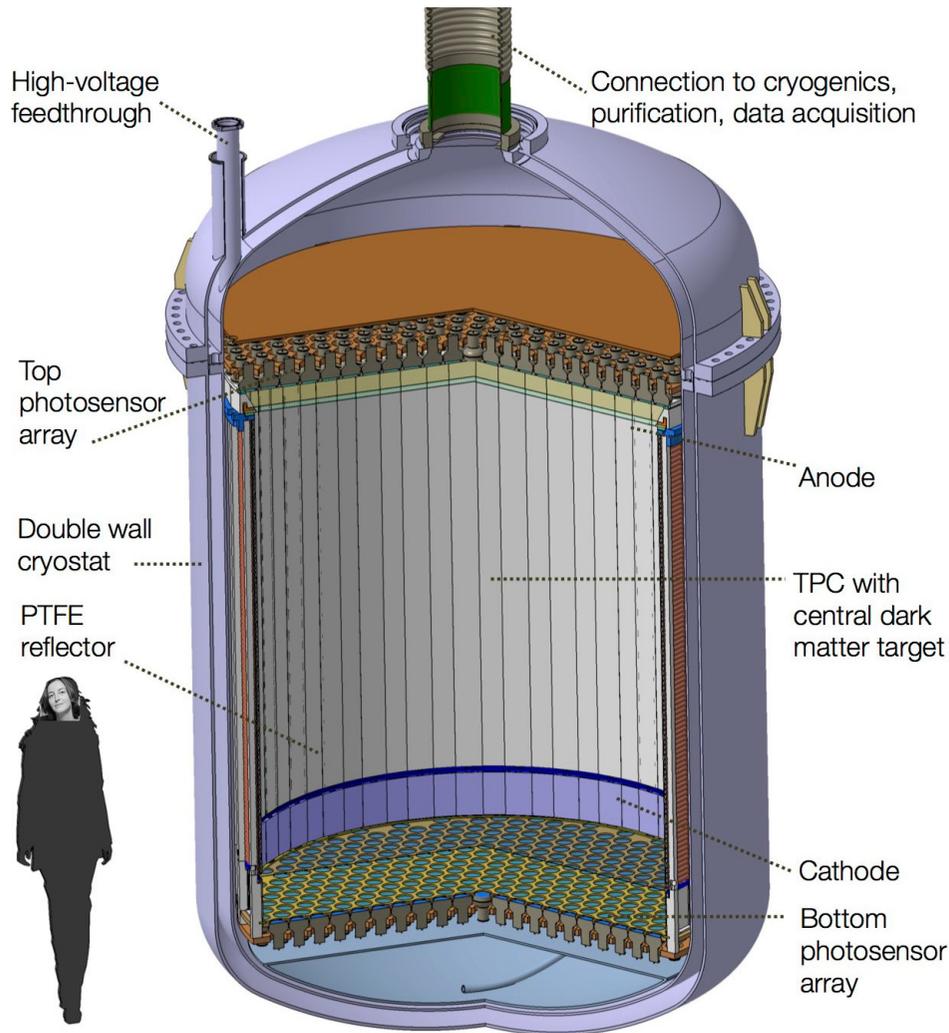
# DARWIN Conceptual Design



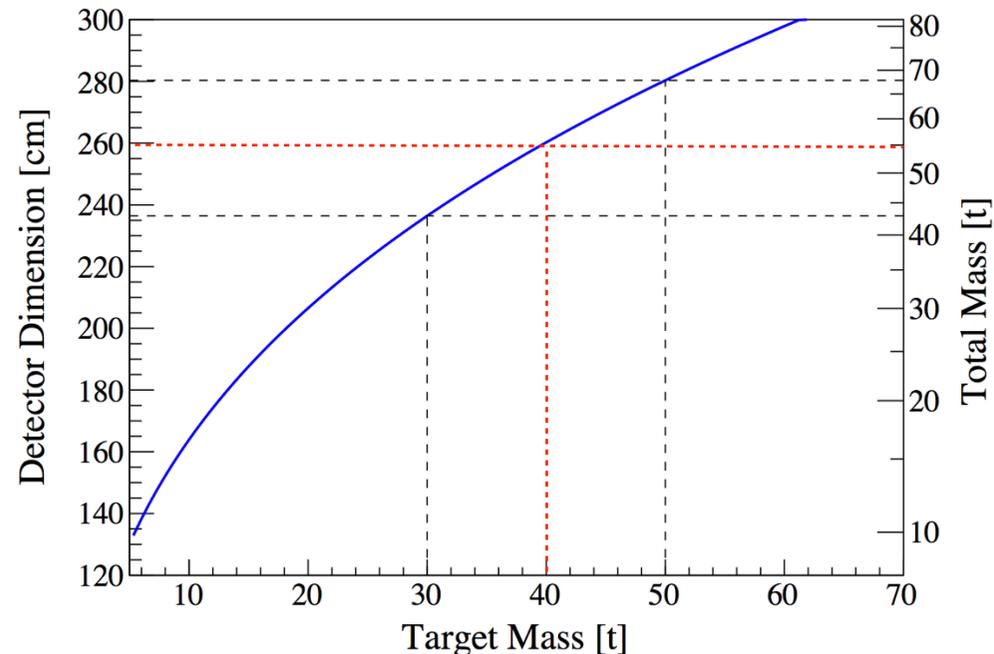
- Conceptual design based on proven technologies
- Water Cherenkov shield: ~14m diameter
- Liquid scintillator neutron veto under study
- Possible location: LNGS

# DARWIN Conceptual Design

J. Aalbers et al., JCAP 11 (2016) 017



- 40 ton LXe target
- Exposure >5 years
- TPC height/diameter 2.6m
- 3" PMTs: ~1800 / 4" PMTs: ~1000
- Low-background cryostat
- PTFE reflector panels
- Copper E-field shaping rings



# Physics Channels

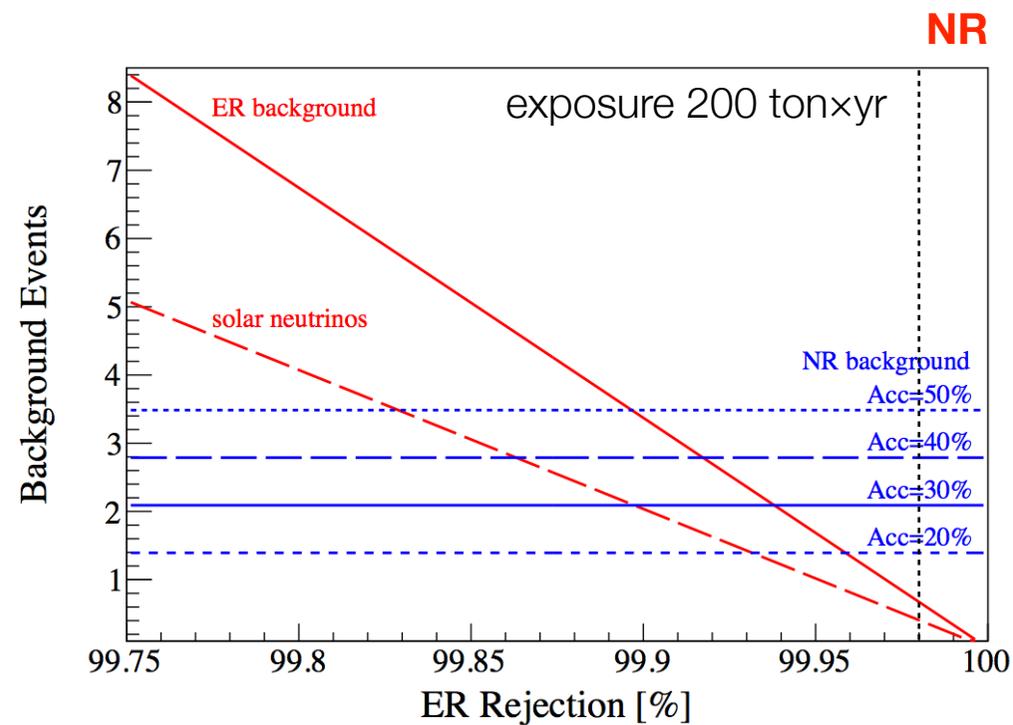
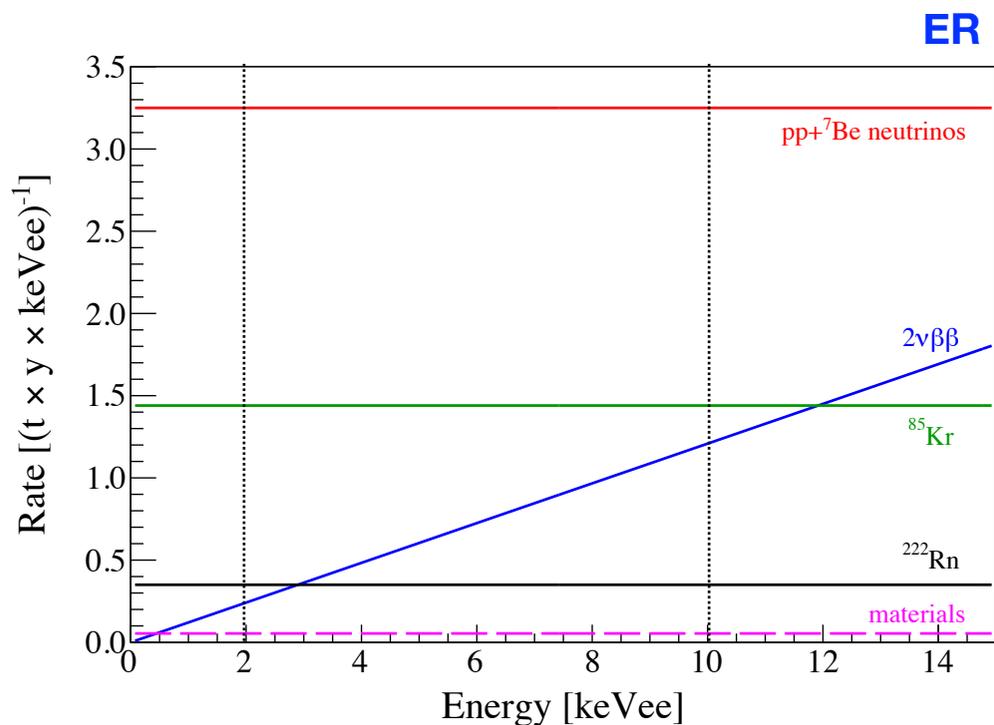
- **WIMP searches** NR
  - Spin-independent
  - Spin-dependent and inelastic interactions
- **Coherent neutrino-nucleus scattering (CNNS)** NR
  - Predicted by SM, not yet observed
- **Low-energy solar neutrinos: pp,  $^7\text{Be}$**  ER
  - Test/improve solar model, test neutrino models
- **Solar axions and galactic axion-like particles (ALPs)** ER
  - Alternative dark matter candidates
  - Coupling to electrons via axio-electric effect
- **Supernova neutrinos** NR
  - Sensitivity to all neutrino flavors (via CNNS)
  - Complementarity to large-scale neutrino detectors
- **Neutrinoless double beta decay** ER
  - Lepton number violating process, effective Majorana mass
  - No enrichment in  $^{136}\text{Xe}$  required

# Backgrounds

M. Schumann et al., JCAP 10 (2015) 016

- Monte Carlo simulations for main material components
- Intrinsic backgrounds:
  - $^{85}\text{Kr}$ : 0.1 ppt  $^{\text{nat}}\text{Kr}$   
 → ×2 below XENONIT design
  - $^{222}\text{Rn}$ : 0.1  $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$   
 → ×100 below XENONIT design
  - $^{136}\text{Xe}$ : assuming natural Xe composition (8.9%)

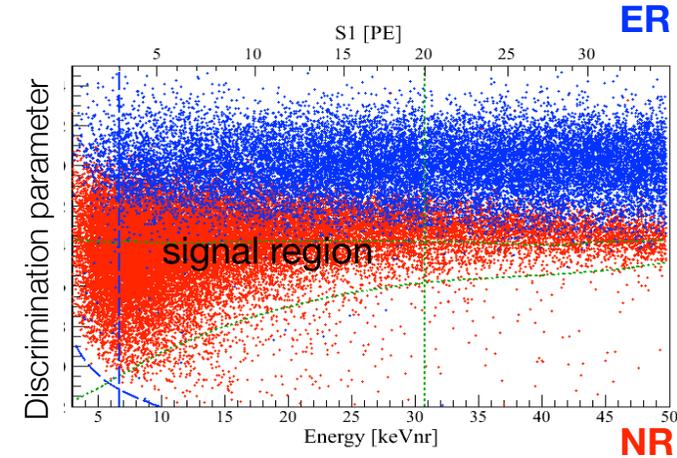
Source	Rate [events/(t·y·keVxx)]	Spectrum
$\gamma$ -rays materials	0.054	flat
neutrons*	$3.8 \times 10^{-5}$	exp. decrease
intrinsic $^{85}\text{Kr}$	1.44	flat
intrinsic $^{222}\text{Rn}$	0.35	flat
$2\nu\beta\beta$ of $^{136}\text{Xe}$	0.73	linear rise
pp- and $^7\text{Be}$ $\nu$	3.25	flat
CNNS*	0.0022	real



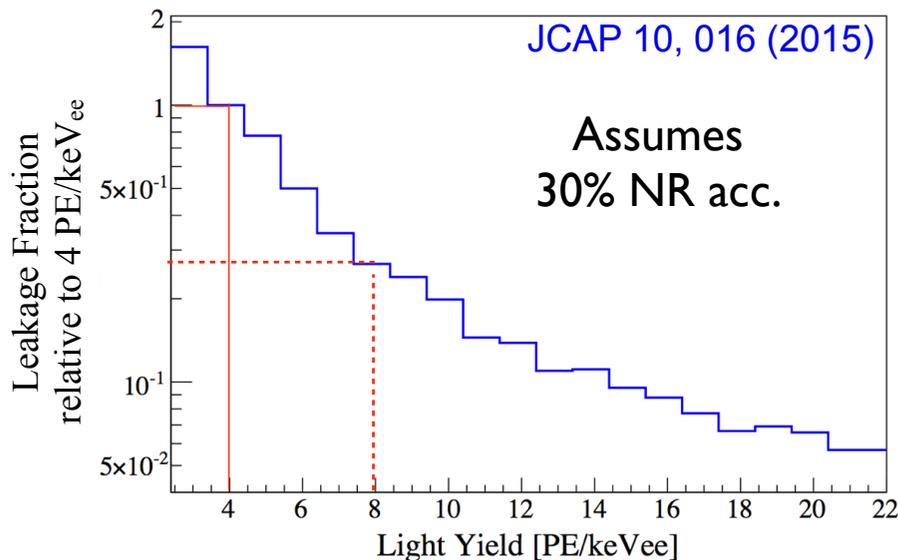
# Background Rejection

- Required ER rejection  $>99.9\%$ 
  - discrimination based on ionization/scintillation ratio
- Experimentally achieved:

	$E_{\text{drift}}$ [kV/cm]	LY @ 122keV [PE/keV]	NR acc. [%]	ER rejection [%]
XENON100	0.53	3.8	40	99.75
XENON100	0.53	3.8	30	99.9
LUX	0.18	8.8	50	99.0 – 99.9
ZEPLIN-III	3.4	4.2	50	99.987
K.Ni et al.	0.2 – 0.7	10	50	99.99-99.999



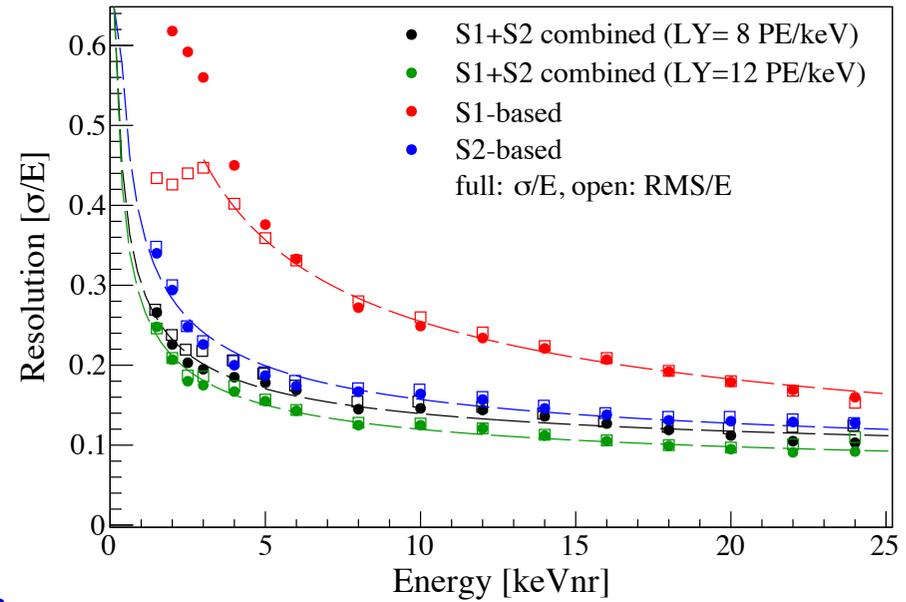
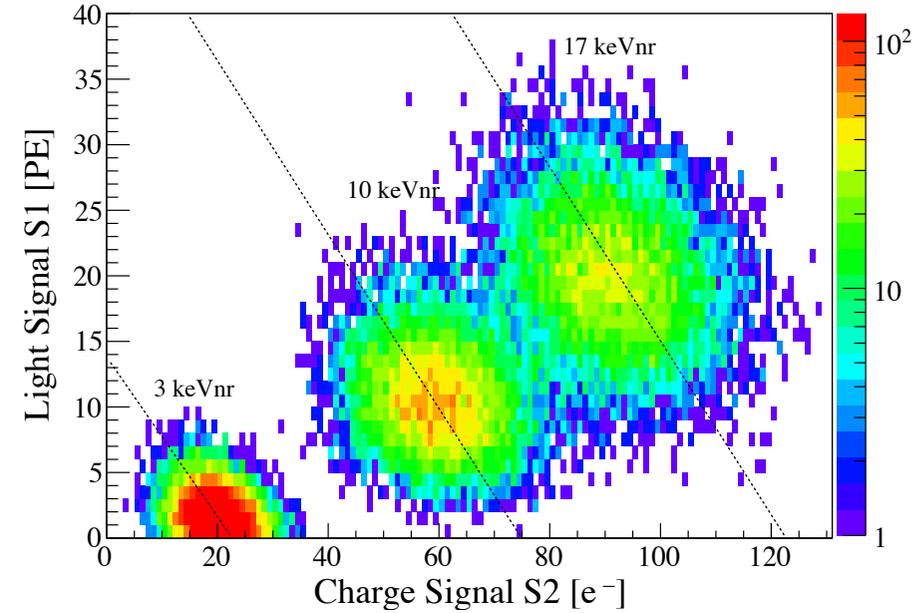
Higher light yield  $\rightarrow$  better resolution  $\rightarrow$  reduced (less wide) ER band width



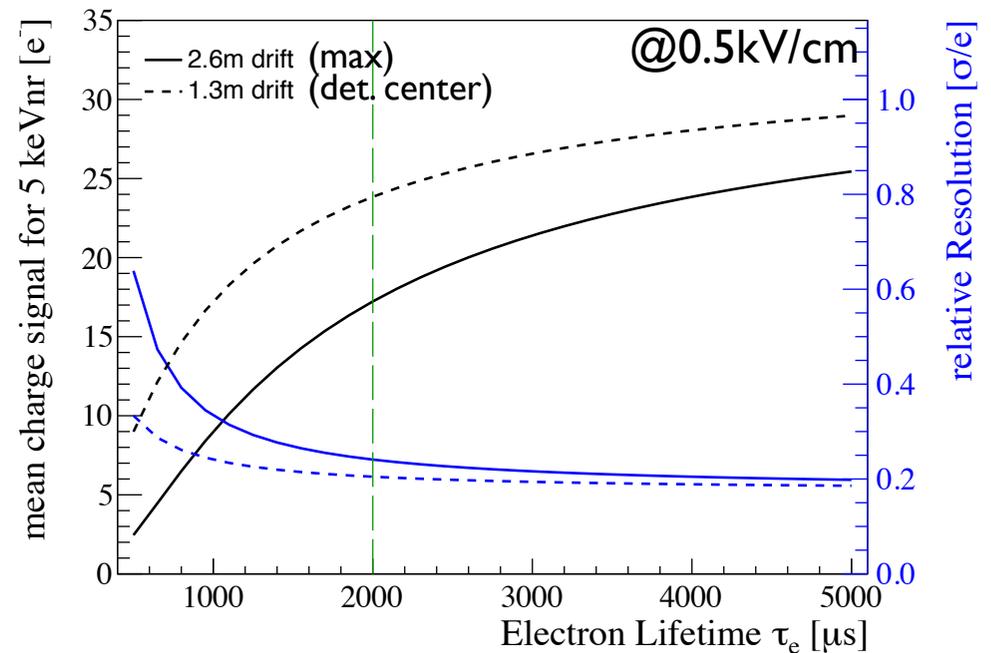
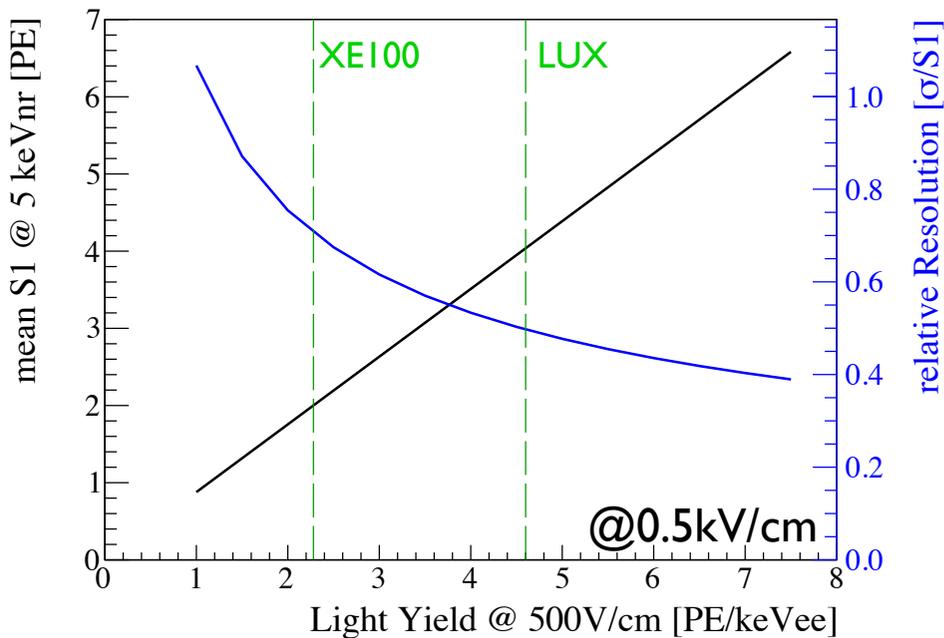
- $\times 2$  higher LY  $\rightarrow \times 7.5$  less leakage
- E-field uniformity plays crucial role

# WIMP Sensitivity

JCAP 10, 016 (2015)



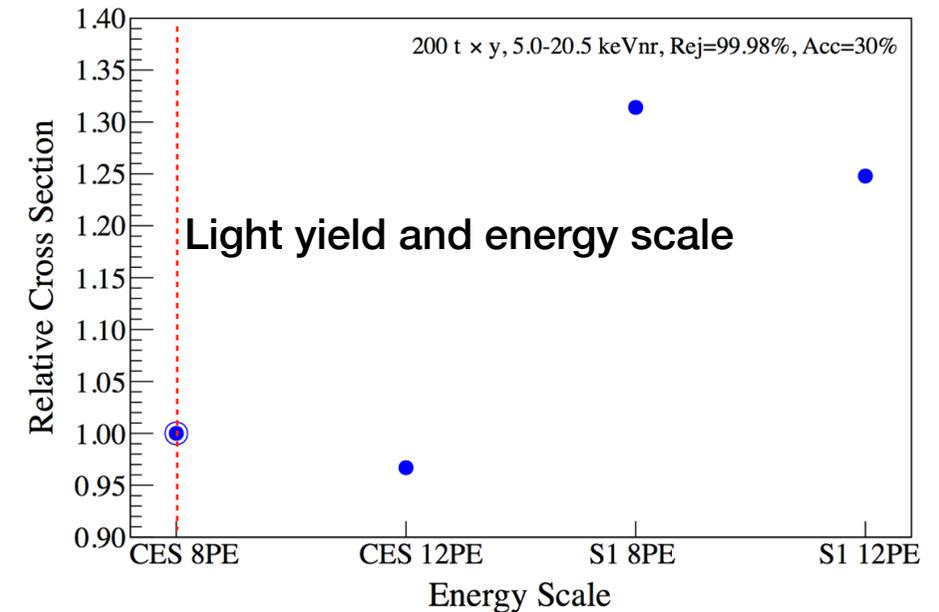
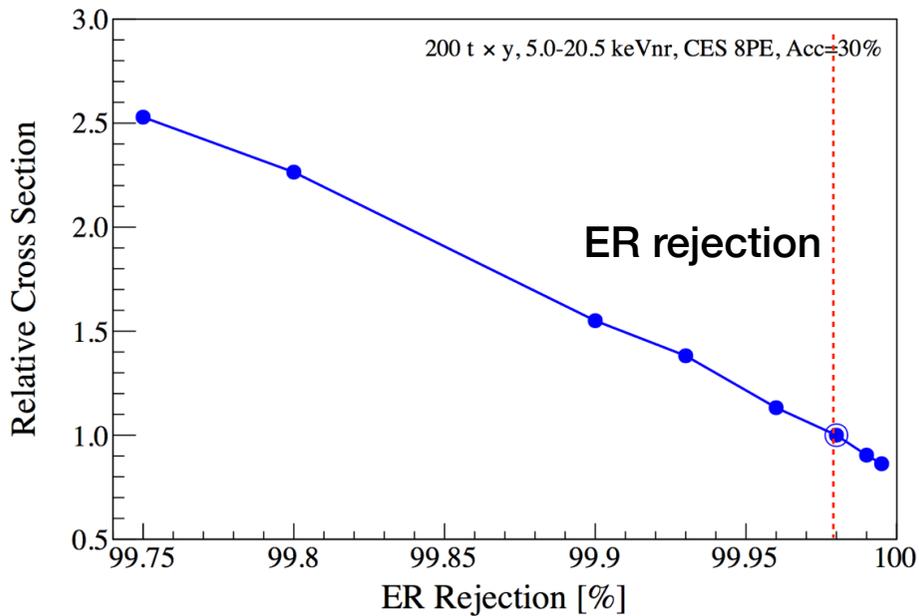
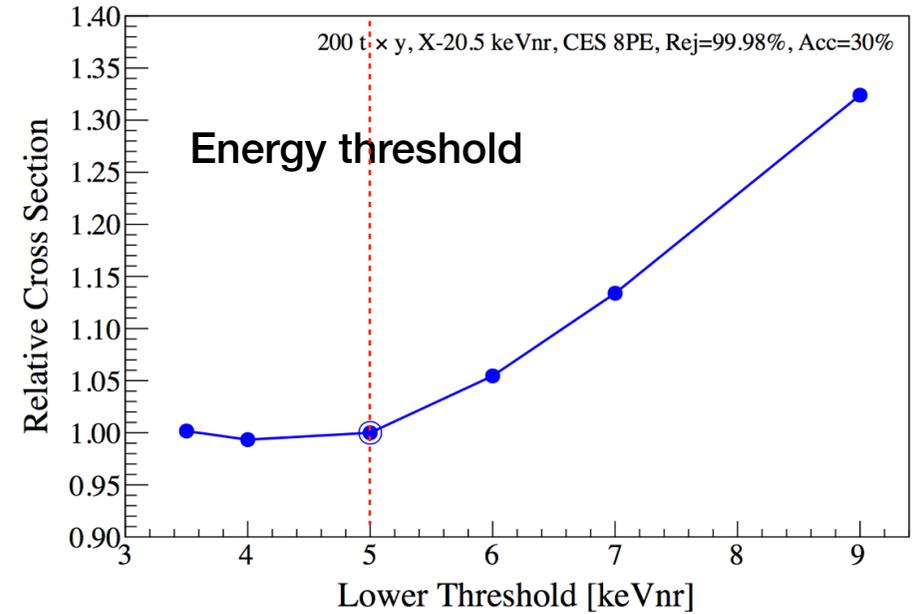
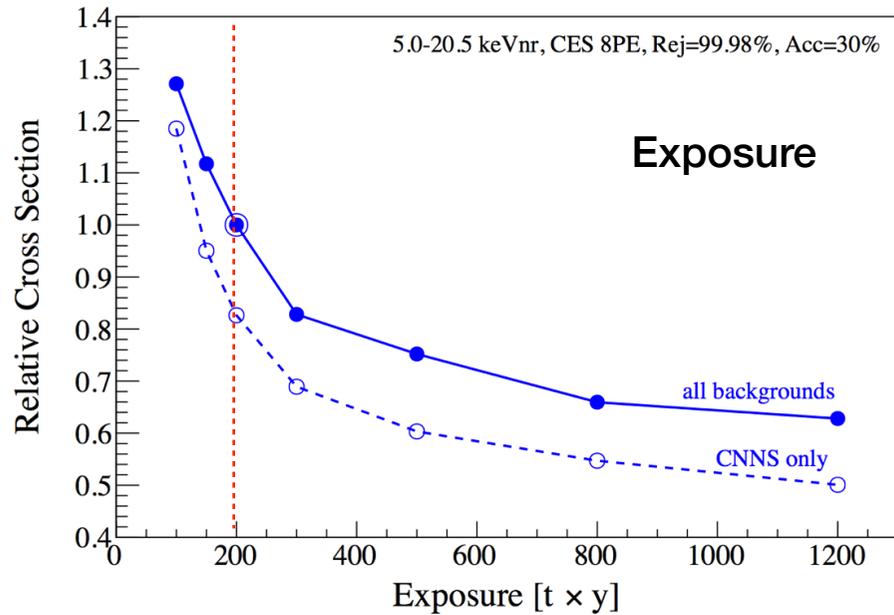
→ Significant improvement in resolution using combined (S1+S2) energy scale



# WIMP Sensitivity Studies

JCAP 10, 016 (2015)

• For WIMP mass 40 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>:

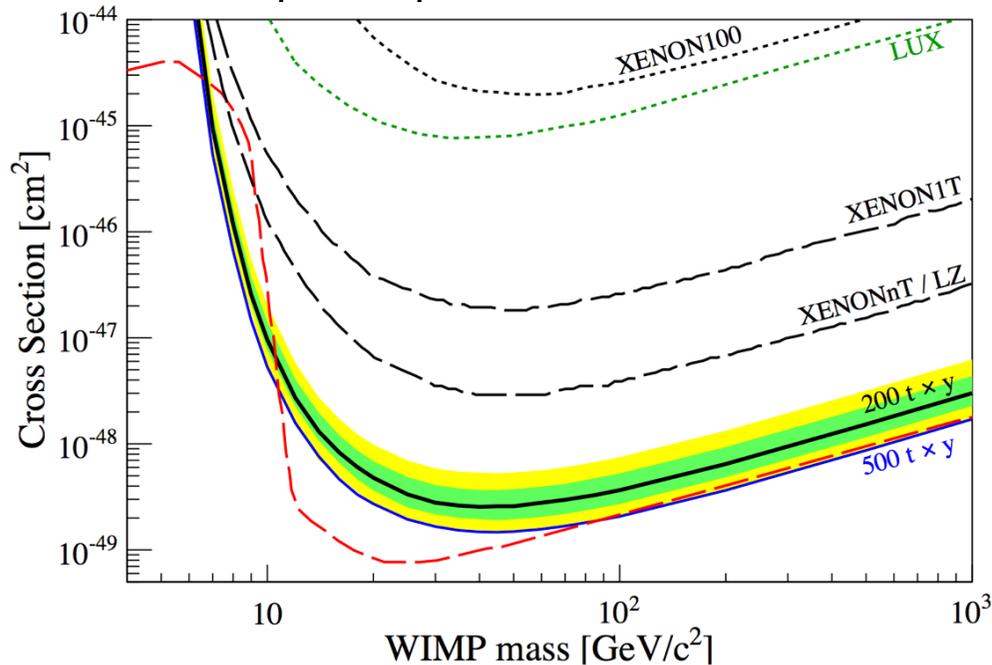


# DARWIN WIMP Sensitivity

JCAP 10, 016 (2015)

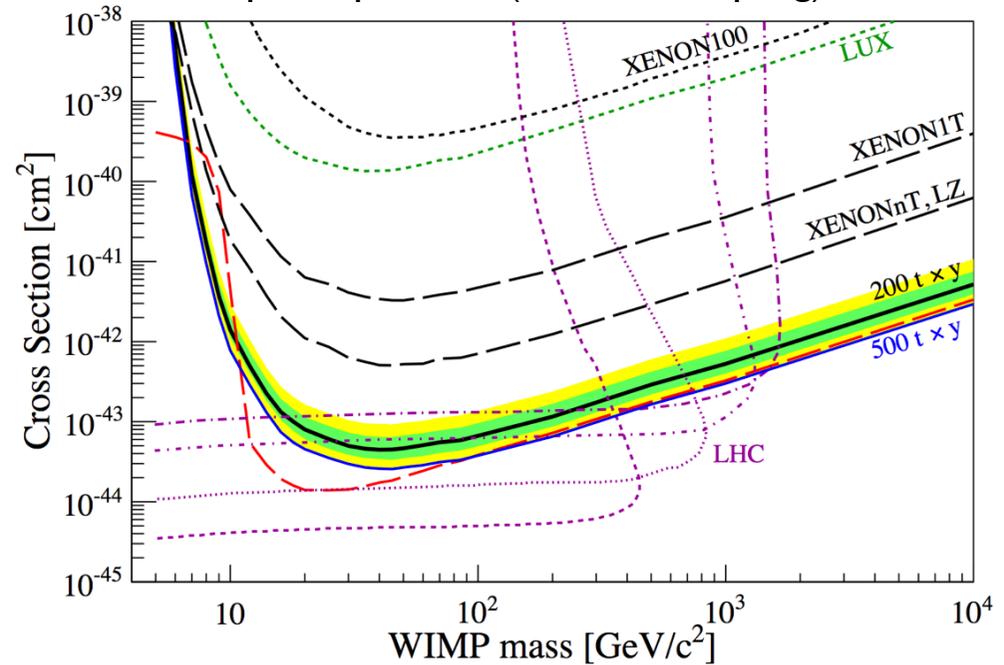
- Assumed exposure 200 ton×yr, all backgrounds included
- Likelihood analysis: 99.98% ER rejection, 30% NR acceptance
- Combined (SI+S2) energy scale
- Energy window 5-35 keV<sub>nr</sub>
- Light yield 8 PE/keV

spin-independent interaction



→ minimum sensitivity:  $2.5 \times 10^{-49} \text{ cm}^2$  @ 40 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>

spin-dependent (neutron coupling)



→ complementarity to LHC searches

# What would we see?

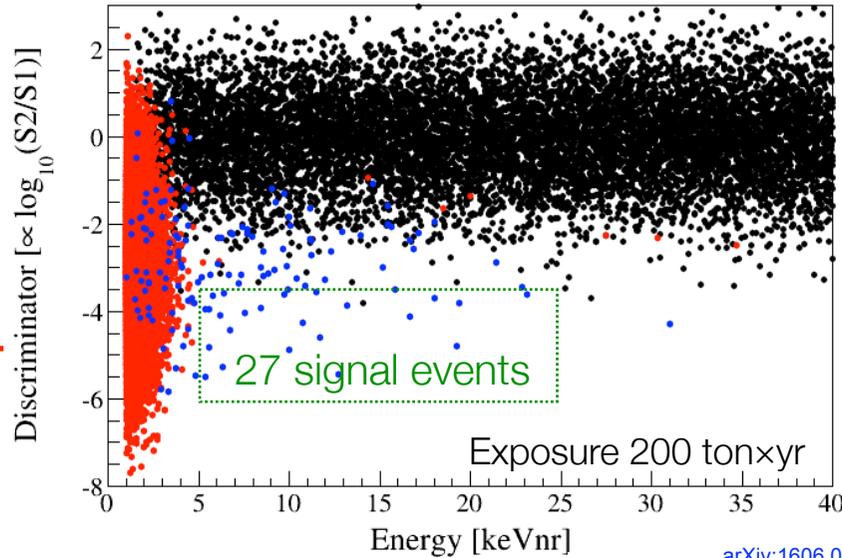
DM halo parameters:

$$\rho_\chi = (0.3 \pm 0.1) \text{ GeV/cm}^3$$

$$v_0 = (220 \pm 20) \text{ km/s}$$

$$v_{\text{esc}} = (544 \pm 40) \text{ km/s}$$

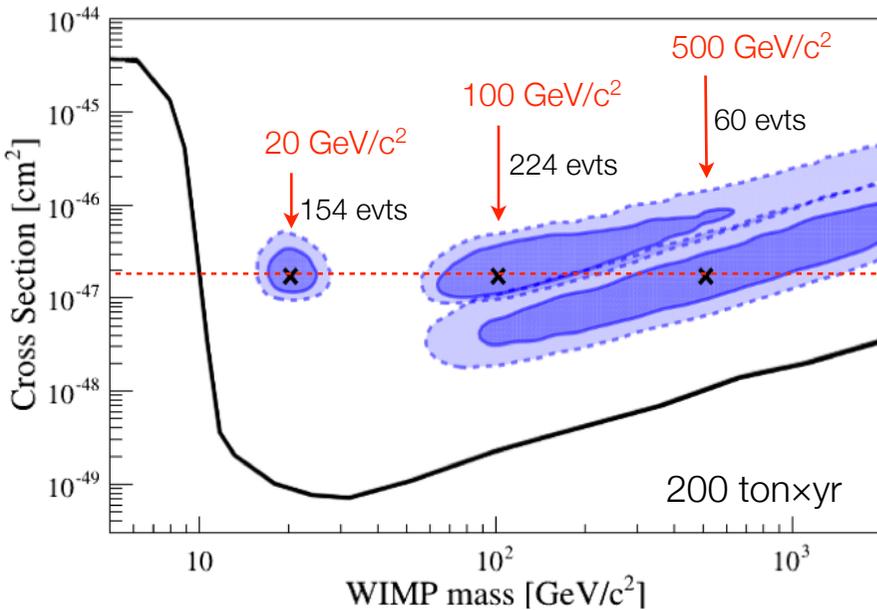
neutrons and CNNS



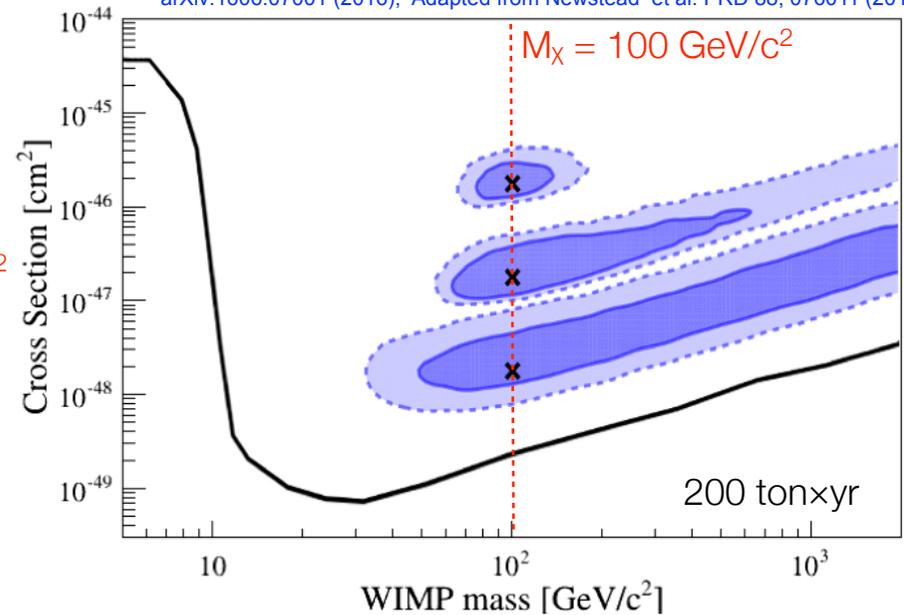
ER background

- materials
- intrinsic (Rn, Kr)
- solar  $\nu$ - $e^-$  scattering
- $^{136}\text{Xe } 2\nu\beta\beta$

30 GeV/c<sup>2</sup> WIMP  
 $\sigma_{\text{SI}} = 2 \times 10^{-48} \text{ cm}^2$



$\sigma_{\text{SI}} = 2 \times 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$



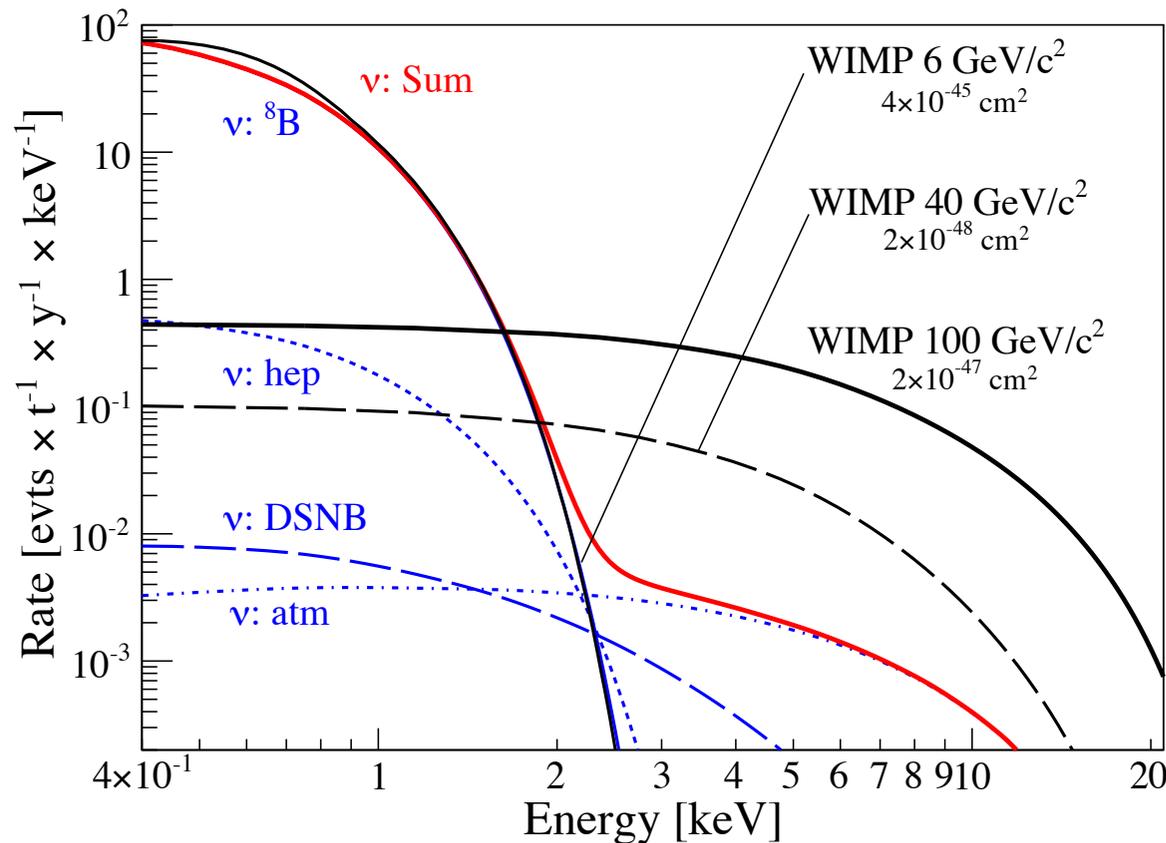
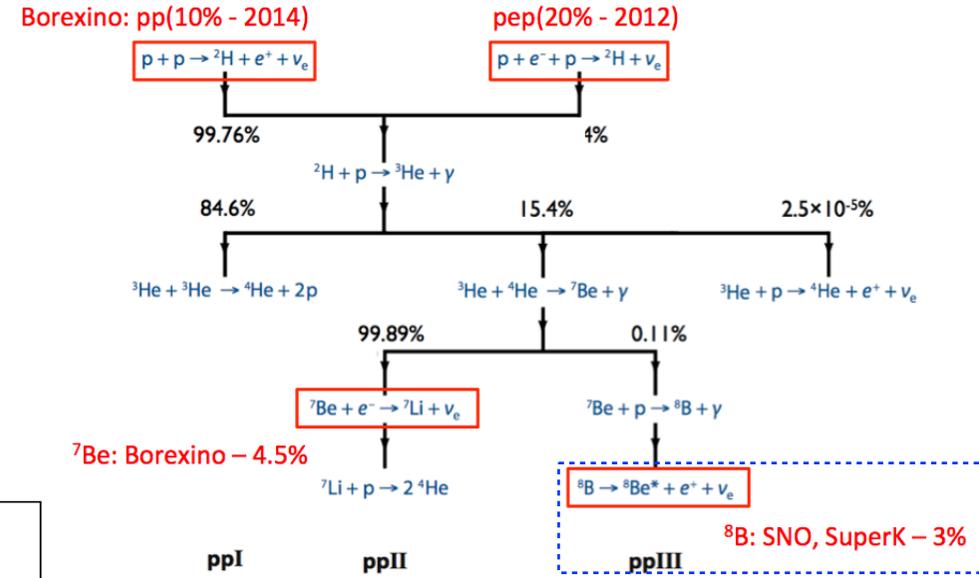
arXiv:1606.07001 (2016), Adapted from Newstead et al. PRD 88, 076011 (2013)

- Extended regions due to uncertainties on DM halo parameters
- For higher WIMP masses ( $> 500 \text{ GeV/c}^2$ ) only lower limits can be derived

# Coherent Neutrino-Nucleus Scattering

JCAP 01, 044 (2014)

- $\nu + N_{Xe} \rightarrow \nu + N_{Xe}$
- Predicted by SM but not yet observed
- CNNS is background for WIMPs,
- Steeply falling spectrum



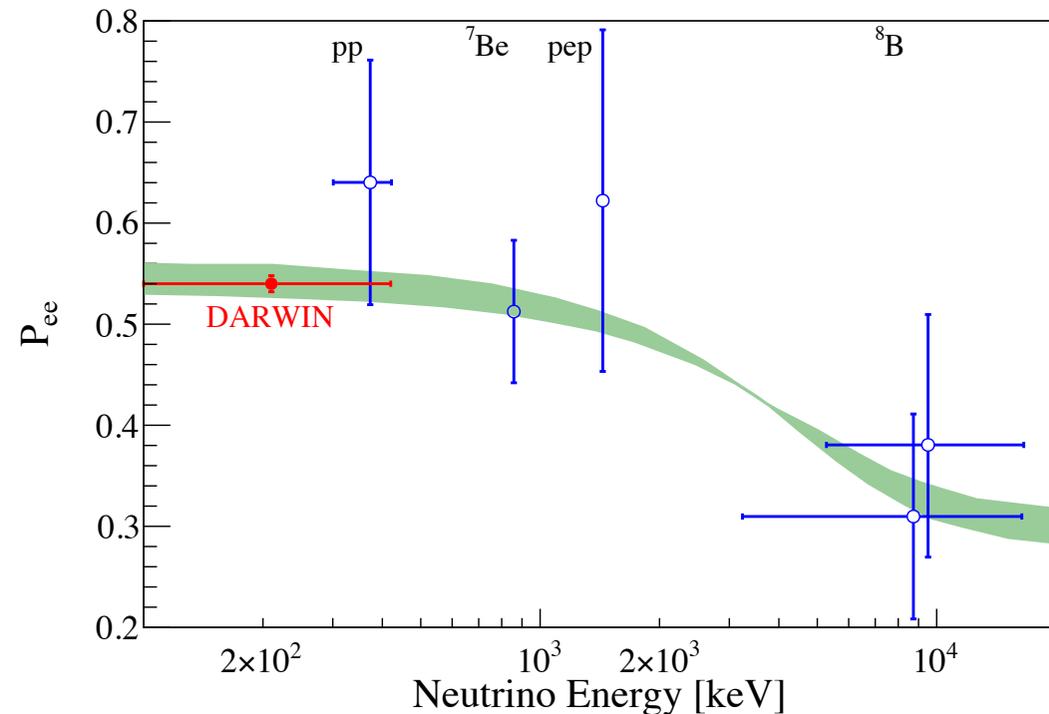
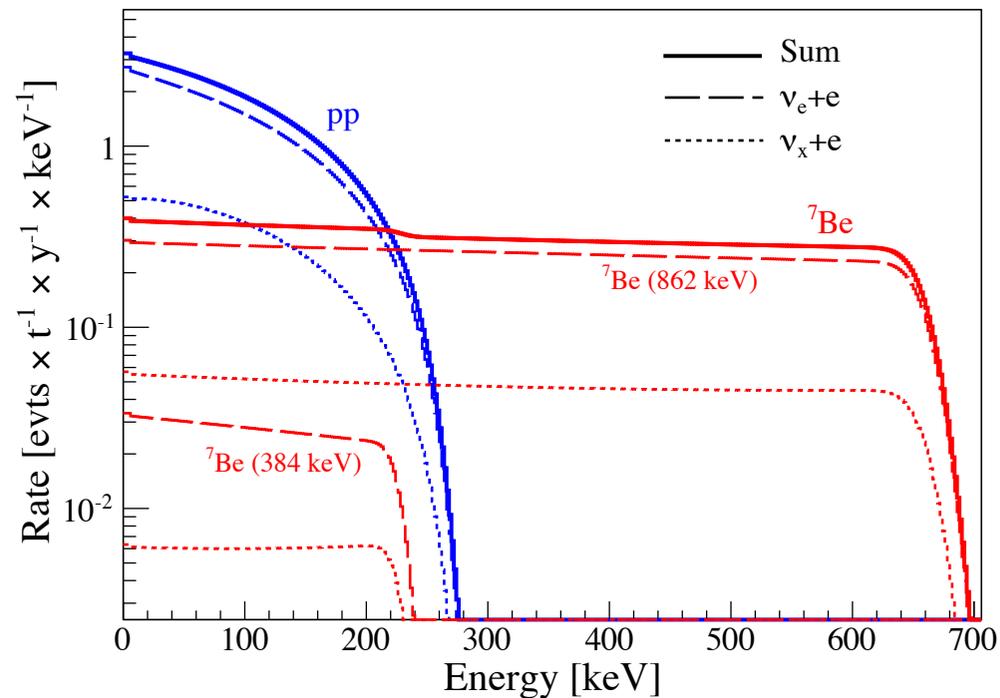
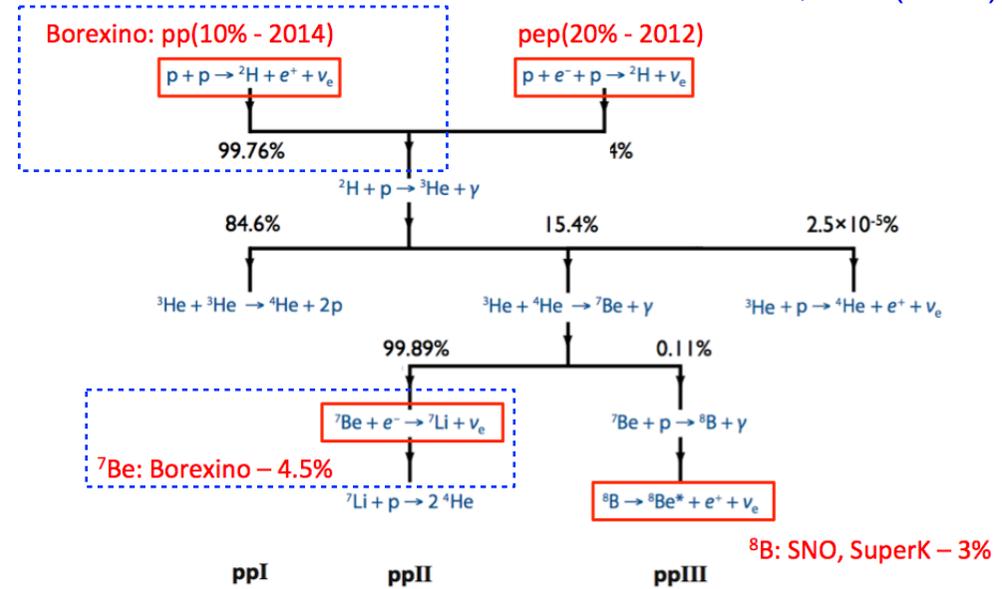
- <sup>8</sup>B neutrinos from the Sun:  
→ 90 events/ton/yr,  $E_R > 1$  keV
- Atmospheric neutrinos:  
→  $3 \times 10^{-3}$  events/ton/yr,  $E_R > 3$  keV

# Solar Neutrinos

JCAP 01, 044 (2014)

- Neutrino-electron elastic scattering
- Real-time measurement of neutrino flux
  - 7.2 events/day from pp
  - 0.9 events/day from  $^7\text{Be}$
- 2% (1%) statistical precision after 1 year (5 years)
  - constrain solar models
- Neutrino survival probability measurement
  - deviation from prediction indicates new physics
- Atomic binding effects have to be taken into account!

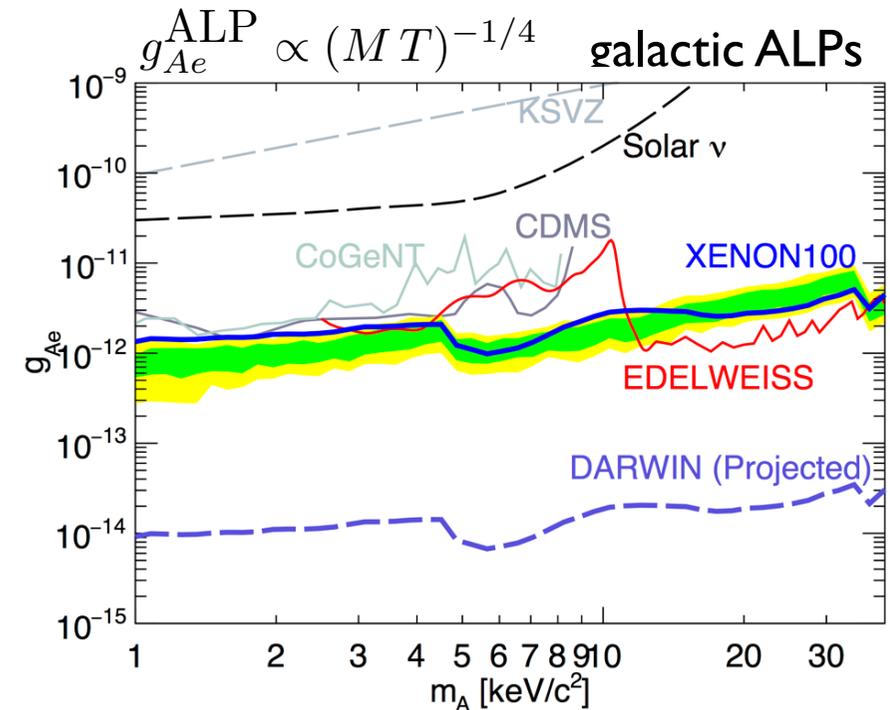
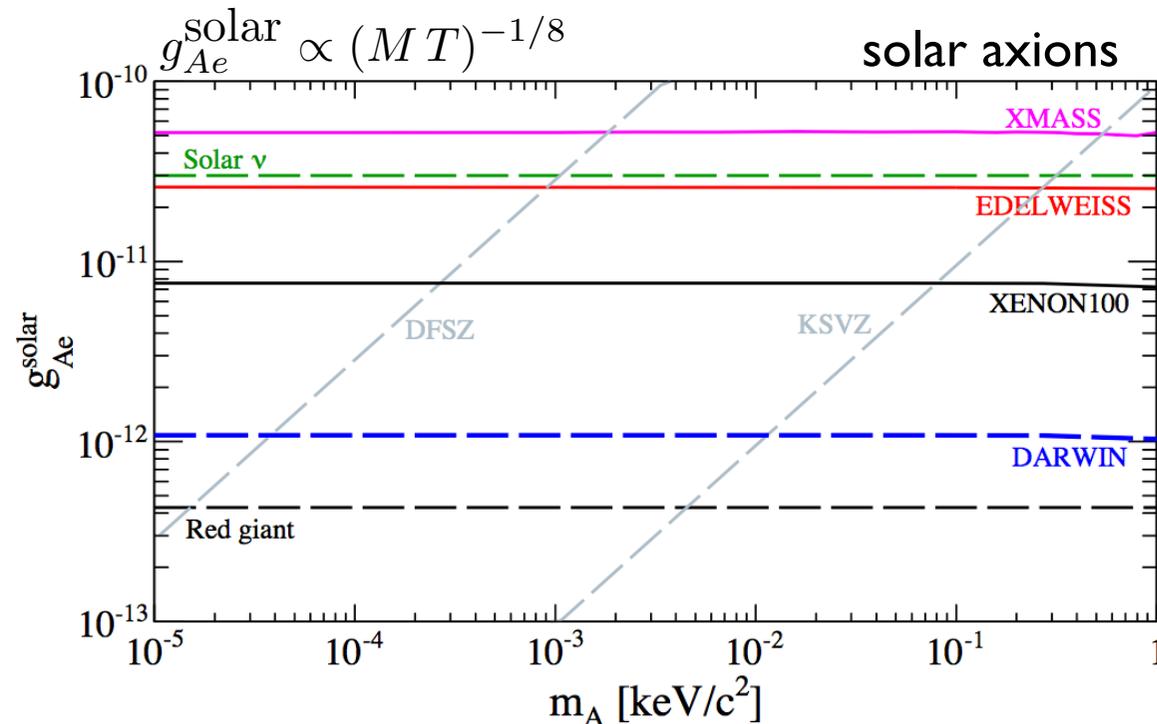
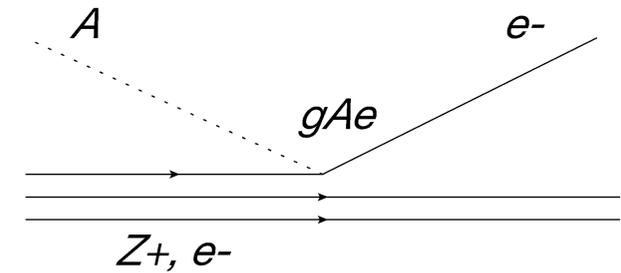
Chen et al, arXiv:1610.04177



# Axions and ALPs

JCAP 11 (2016) 017

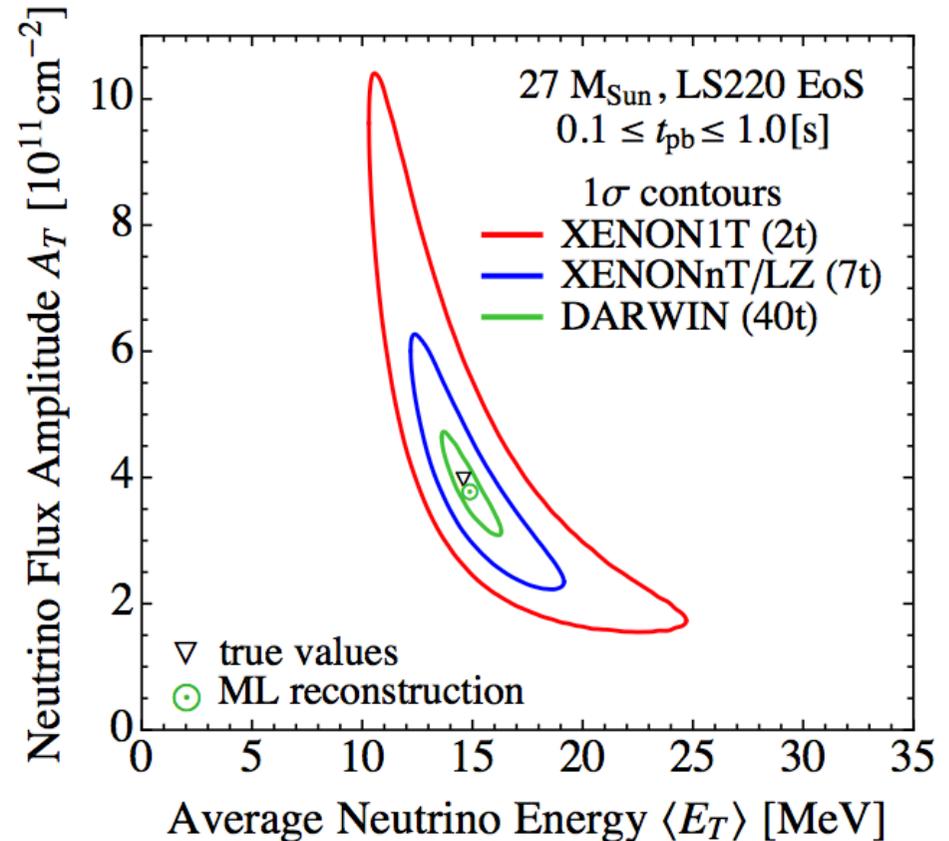
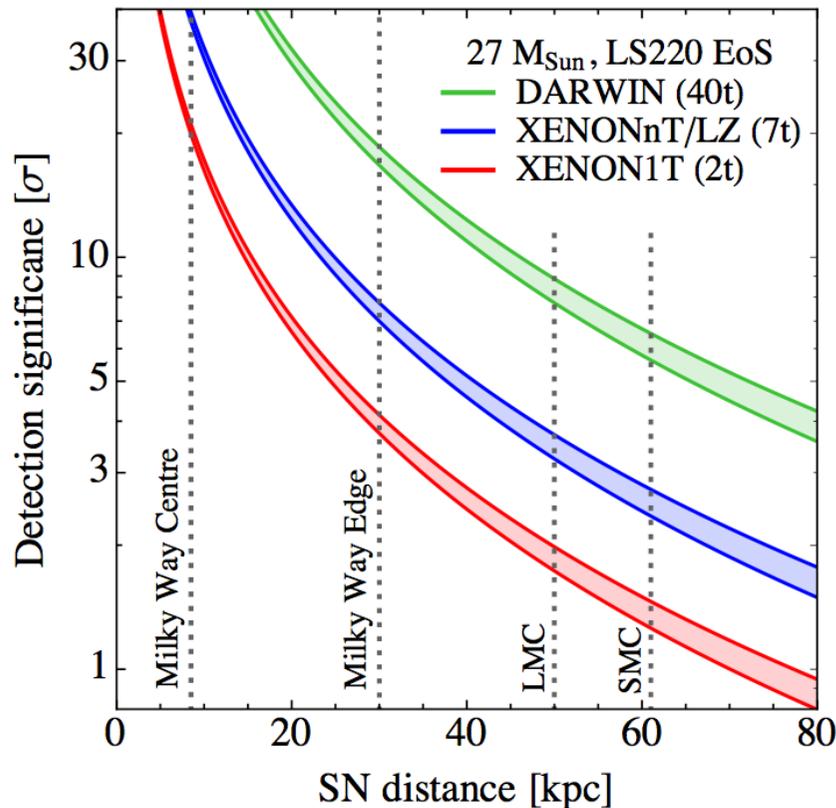
- Measurement via axio-electric effect (ER channel)
- Expect mono-energetic peak at the particle mass
- Sensitivity to solar axions
  - x10 improvement relative to XENON100
- Sensitivity to galactic Axion Like Particles (ALPs)
  - x100 improvement relative to XENON100
- Dominant backgrounds: solar neutrinos and  $2\nu\beta\beta$  of  $^{136}\text{Xe}$



# Supernova Neutrinos

R. Lang et al., arXiv:1606.09243

- Low threshold using proportional scintillation signal (S2) only
- Negligible background due to short burst ( $\sim$ sec)
- $5\sigma$  sensitivity to a supernova burst up to 65 kpc from Earth
- Detection of all 6 neutrino species via neutral current reactions

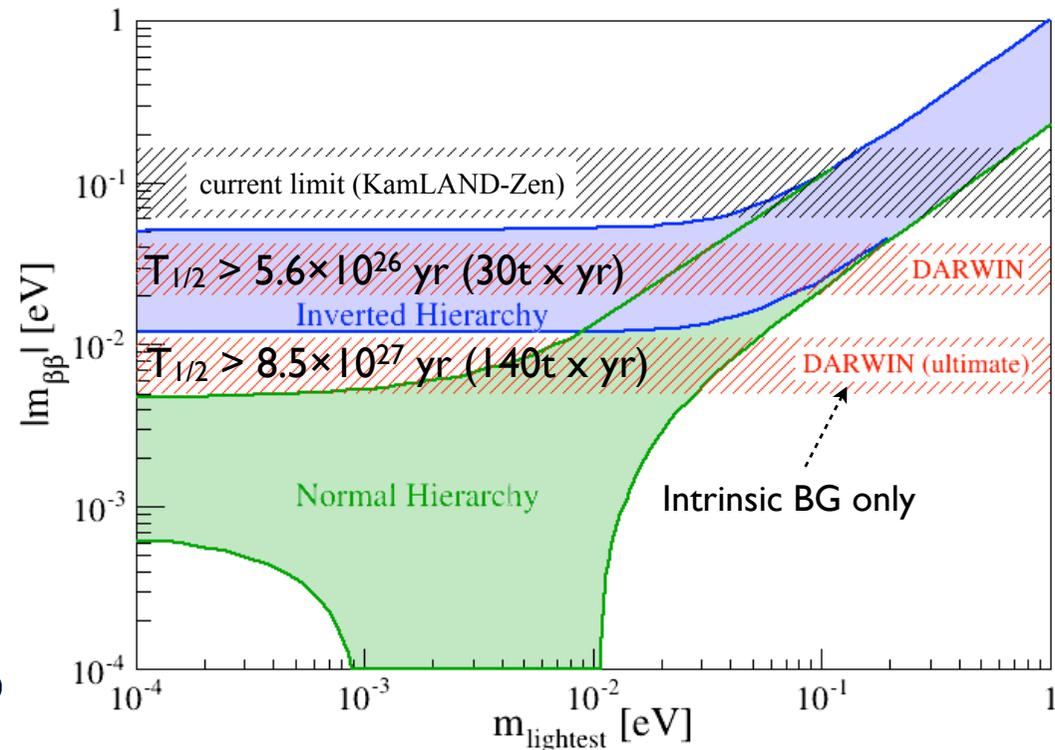
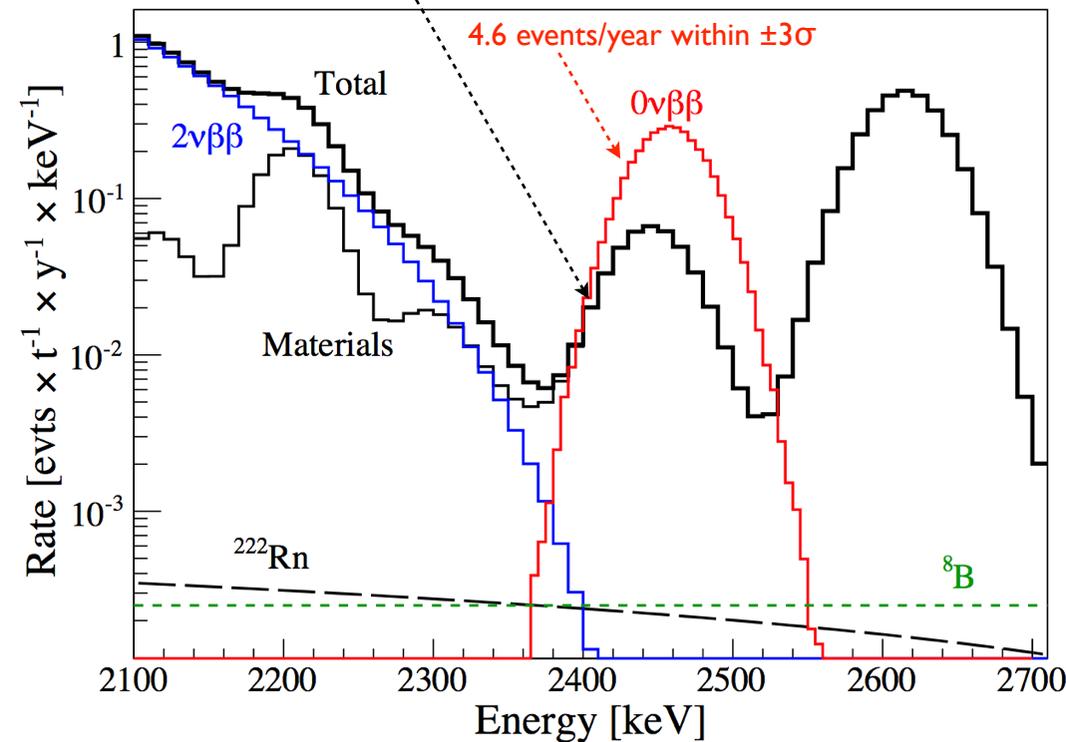
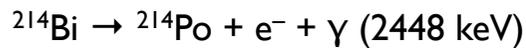
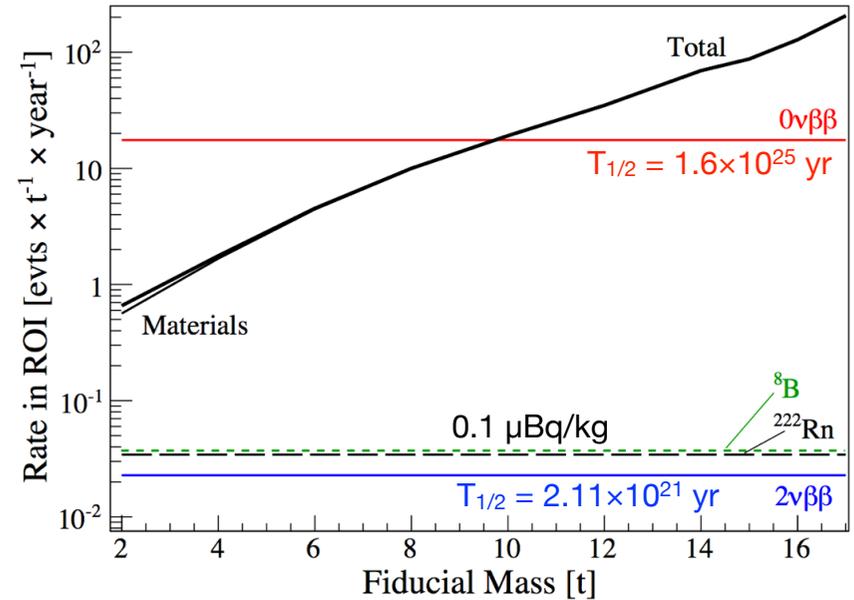


- $\sim 700$  events for a  $27M_{\odot}$  SN progenitor at 10 kpc
- Flavor-insensitive neutrino energy measurement
  - constrain total explosion energy and reconstruct the SN light curve

# Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay

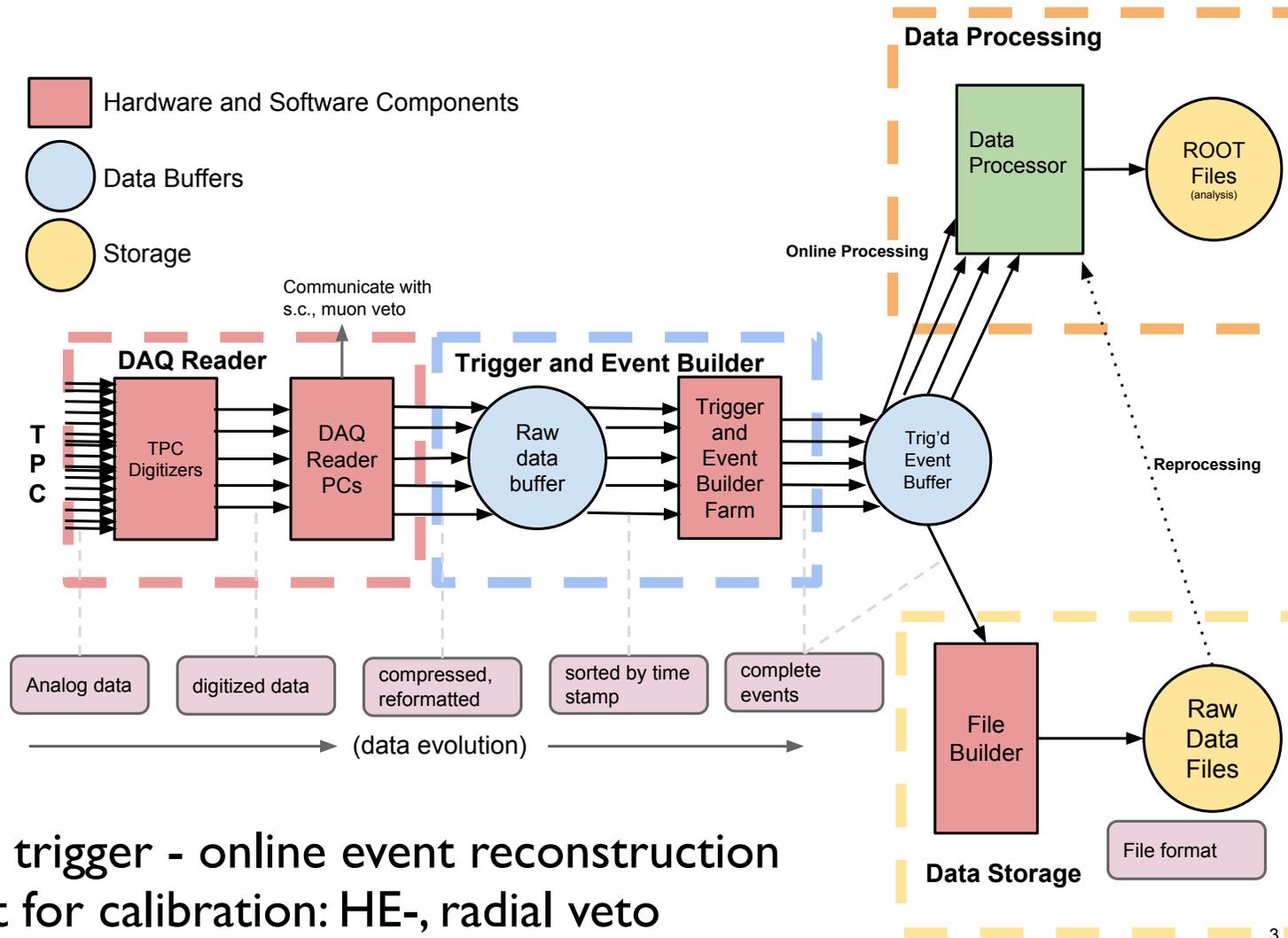
JCAP 01, 044 (2014)

- $^{136}\text{Xe}$  abundance in natural xenon 8.9%
  - 40t of Xe has 3.6t of  $^{136}\text{Xe}$
- Q-value ( $2458.7 \pm 0.6$ ) keV
- MC assuming
  - $T_{1/2} = 1.6 \times 10^{25}$  yr (superseded)
  - Energy resolution ( $\sigma/\mu$ ) at  $Q_{\beta\beta}$  1%



# Data Acquisition System

Software-based trigger using commodity computing:



- Flexible trigger - online event reconstruction
  - Adapt for calibration: HE-, radial veto
  - Prescale backgrounds
  - SN trigger
  - ...

# Technical Challenges and R&D

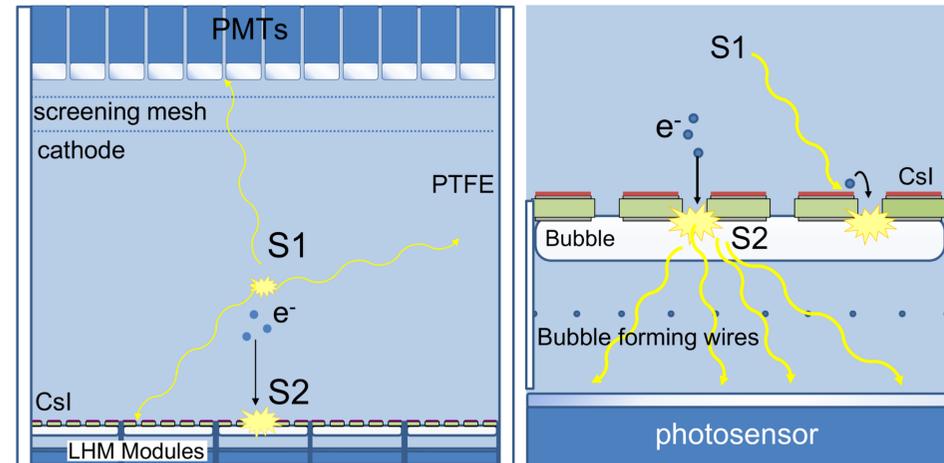
## High voltage:

- drift field: 0.5 kV/cm requires cathode HV of 130 kV, uniformity is important
  - anode: constant gap, parallel to liquid surface over 2.6m
- 3D field simulations with KEMField (boundary element method)

JINST 10, P08015 (2015)  
JINST 10, P11002 (2015)

## High light yield:

- baseline design PMTs
- alternatives: SiPM, SiGHT, GPM
- single-phase TPC with Liquid Hole Multipliers



## High purity:

- magnetically driven piston pumps with sealed pumping volumes
- cryogenic distillation to remove Kr (sub-ppt level) and Rn
- careful selection of materials for low Rn emanation
- surface treatment (electropolishing, etching etc.)

# Conclusions

## DARWIN

- Push low-background technology to the next level
- “Ultimate” WIMP discovery experiment
- Large mass and low threshold allow for a rich neutrino physics program
  - Solar observatory of pp and  ${}^7\text{Be}$  neutrinos
  - (Most?) sensitive  $0\nu 2\beta$  experiment
  - Supernova neutrinos
- All starting in 2025 or so...

[www.darwin-observatory.org](http://www.darwin-observatory.org)